

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-22 were previously pending. No claims have been canceled or added. Thus, claims 1-22 remain pending.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claim 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended. As amended, Applicants submit that claims 3 and 4 satisfy the requirements of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the §112 rejections of claims 3 and 4.

Non-Statutory Double Patenting

Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13, 14, and 16-22 stand rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims of U.S. Patent No. 5,674,296. Similarly, **claim 12** stands rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,674,296 in view of either U.S. Patent No. 5,899,942 to Berman or U.S. Patent No. 5,575,815 to Slepian et al. In response to these non-statutory double patenting rejections Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c). Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the non-statutory double patenting rejections of claims 1, 2, 5-14, and 16-22.

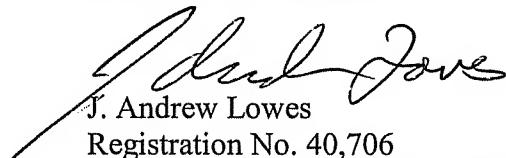
Appl. No. 10/017,611
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Attorney Docket No. 31132.72/PC904.04
Customer No. 46333

CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that pending claims 1-22 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is necessary to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

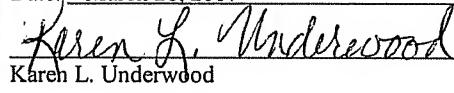

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web on the following date.

Date: March 26, 2007


Karen L. Underwood

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